



# Methamphetamine





# Learning Objectives

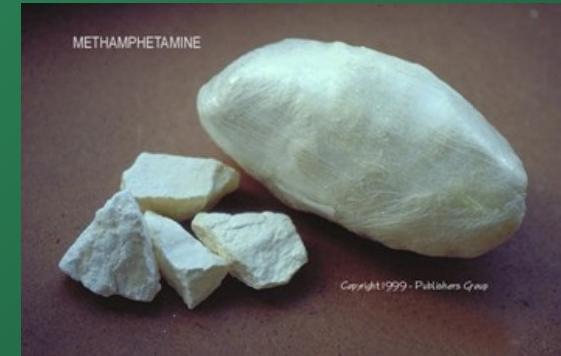
- Identify the side effects of the drug methamphetamine.
- Identify the withdrawal symptoms associated with methamphetamine addiction.





# What is Methamphetamine?

- Methamphetamine is a powerful, synthetic central nervous system stimulant.
- The majority of methamphetamine being consumed illegally is manufactured in clandestine laboratories around the United States.
- Classified by the DEA as a Schedule II Controlled Substance.
- Can be legally prescribed for attention deficit disorder





# History of Methamphetamine

1919 - Methamphetamine first synthesized

1940s - Japan uses methamphetamine to increase work output by factor workers.

WWII - Used by Allies and the Axis to help stay awake during battles and bombing runs.

1959 - FDA bans the use of most amphetamines from use in inhalers due to their side effects.



1960s - Methamphetamine use





# History of Methamphetamine

**1970** - Use of methamphetamine rises at an alarming rate in California.

**1970** - Amphetamines become a controlled substance due to the “U.S. Drug Abuse Regulation and Control Act of 1970”.

**1996** - The “Comprehensive Methamphetamine Control Act” establishes new reporting requirements for companies that sell methamphetamine supplies via mail.

**Present** - Associated with *raves* and belongs to *club drug* family.





# How is Methamphetamine Used?

**Methamphetamine is generally a white or off-white powder that can be ingested in several ways:**

- **Orally**
- **Snorted**
- **Injected**
- **Smoked**





# Short Term Side Effects

- Excessive Talking
- Increased Activity
- Nervousness
- Decreased Fatigue
- Anxiety / Panic Attacks
- Hallucinations
- Nervousness
- Excessive Sweating
- Skin Welts
- Violent / Suicidal Behavior

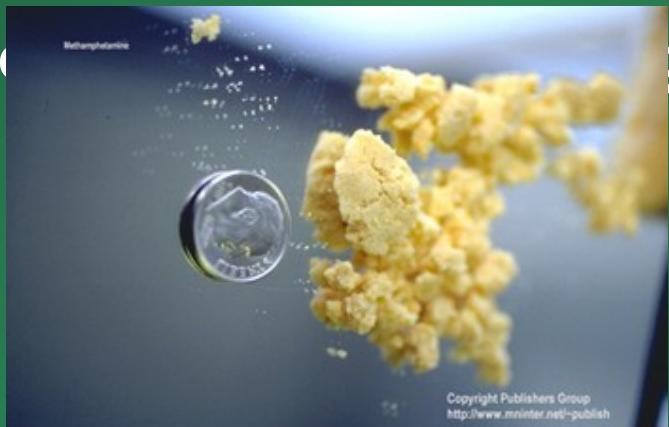




# Long Term Side Effects

**Methamphetamine use can cause serious long term side effects that can affect the user for the rest of their life:**

- Immune System Damage
- Psychological Problems
- Seizures
- Fatal Kidney Disorders
- Fatal Lung Disorders
- Birth Defects
- Stroke
- Death



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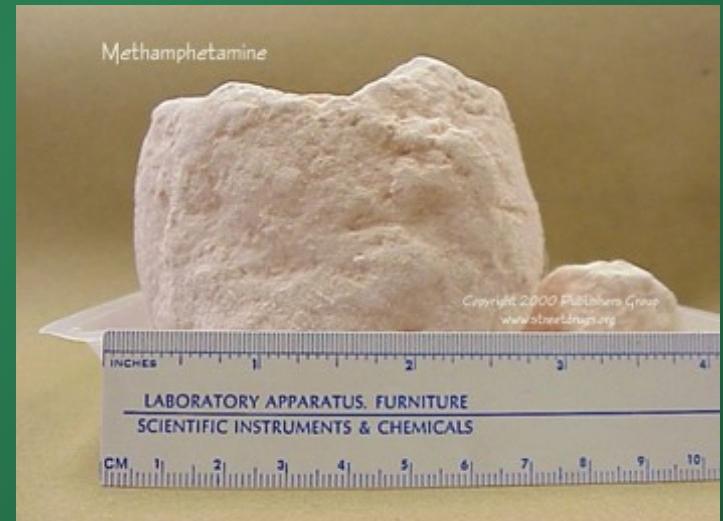




# Addiction

**Physical Dependence** - When the user's body cannot function properly without ingestion of the drug.

**Psychological Dependence** - When the consumption of the drug takes priority over other activities within the user's daily life.





# Withdrawal

**Symptoms of methamphetamine withdrawal can include:**

- Hunger
- Restless Sleep
- Extreme Fatigue
- Severe Nightmares
- Anxiety / Irritability
- Severe Distress
- Chronic Depression
- Panic Attacks





# Methamphetamine Testing in the Army

- Methamphetamine can be detected in urine for 2-3 days after ingestion.
- The Army tests every specimen for methamphetamines.
- The illegal use of methamphetamine or any drug goes against Soldiers Values and Warrior Pride.





# Additional Information

**Additional information on amphetamines can be found by contacting the Army Substance Abuse Program or by visiting [www.acsap.army.mil](http://www.acsap.army.mil).**





# WARRIOR

**P**

**ersonal Courage:** Possess the Personal Courage not to use drugs or abuse alcohol and to notify the Chain of Command of Soldiers that do.

**R**

**espect:** Show your Respect to the Army, your unit, fellow Soldiers, and yourself by staying drug free and drinking responsibly.

**I**

**negrity:** Stay true to the Army Values and Warrior Ethos by supporting the Army's drug and alcohol policies.

**D**

**uty:** Do your duty as a Soldier and stay mentally and physically tough by not using drugs or abusing alcohol.

**E**

**xcellence:** Exhibit honorable behavior on and off duty - don't be a substance abuser!